



THE NOE VALLEY VOICE



Photo by Chuck Ford

A small glass of milk and graham crackers snatched from the Cookie Monster — and it's a wonderful lunch for the little people who attend daycare centers. Even with their mouths full, youngsters quickly become friends and, not surprisingly, so do their parents. The fall sessions start this month in Noe Valley, with a wide variety of programs, from free to quite expensive. A sampling of what's available starts on Page 6.

One Way To Fight City Hall

By Corey Michaels

The sign is coming down.

It is a small sign, oblong in shape and informational in purpose, located at the intersection of Sanchez and Liberty Streets. And after more than 12 frustrating months, it's finally coming down.

The sign is a one-way street marker, around which a determined group of Dolores Heights residents coalesced to fight City Hall and, in the end, to emerge as battle-weary victors.

The sign at first was a seemingly minor inconvenience. But by the time the controversy was resolved last month, the one-way street sign had become a major traffic safety problem, and had pitted the powers of city and state against the residents, which included a superior court judge.

The fight erupted 14 months ago when a one-block section of Sanchez Street between Liberty and 20th Streets was turned into a one-way street, apparently at the request of a single resident. For 40 or so years, Sanchez Street had carried two-way traffic.

But there is a median strip, which contains vegetation, and a retaining wall, separating the upper roadway and the lower roadway of that one-block portion of Sanchez Street. The upper and lower roadways serve different areas of the neighborhood.

It was the upper portion of the roadway that was turned into a one-way street going north. Be-

cause of the number of dead-end streets and existing one-way streets in the hilly neighborhood, some residents had to traverse as much as 15 circuitous blocks just to go one block.

"We thought that was pretty ridiculous," said Alvin Fowler, who lives on nearby Cumberland Street and who is vice president of the Dolores Heights Improvement Association.

The inconvenience took on more sinister proportions, however, because many residents and

(Continued on Page 4)

'49ers 1st String Lobbyist

St. Clair Makes Sacramento Team

By Terry Jacobs

The first question most people ask Bob St. Clair when he tells them he is moving to the State capital to lobby for his former football team is, "Why would the Forty-Niners need a lobbyist?"

"The professional baseball teams in the State of California have representatives in Sacramento," he replies. "They have their advocates up there representing them. I found out that professional football doesn't."

Eager to fill that void, St. Clair is leaving his liquor store at 24th and Sanchez Streets to become the first lobbyist for a National Football League team in the State.

Two weeks ago, St. Clair, a

New Center Opens Seniors Come of Age

By John Pachtner

It can take as long as 22 months to create a baby elephant, but when it finally comes into the world, it's with a rumble that can't be ignored.

So it may be with Noe Valley's senior citizens. Long quiet, frequently forgotten, and commonly under-served by government, the elderly here are suddenly going to see a burst of energy and services directed at them.

--A multi-purpose senior citizens center — viewed as the creme de la creme of facilities for older people — is scheduled to open this month on 30th Street between Dolores and Church Streets.

--Noe Valley Ministry's hot meals for the elderly will be expanded from one meal a week to two, and will be able to serve up to 40 people at a sitting beginning in November.

--And the director of the senior citizen program at St. Philip's Catholic Church is about to embark on the first-ever study of the needs of the elderly throughout the 5th supervisorial district. That study is aimed at coordinating existing programs and determining what is necessary to properly and fully serve the elderly in Noe Valley, Eureka Valley, Duboce Triangle, the Haight-Ashbury, and other neighborhoods in District 5.

The new seniors center at 225 30th St. will serve 125 meals there and 130 a day elsewhere in the district — at 50 cents a meal. It will also provide health screening and education, legal assistance, and recreation activities.

To be operated by the San Francisco Home Health Service, a non-profit organization that has provided care for house-bound seniors since 1957, the center

will be funded by \$237,000 in City parking tax money funneled through the San Francisco Commission on Aging.

According to Carola Haller, community coordinator for Home Health Service, the center hopes to open its doors sometime between Sept. 3 and 10. And, she said, "The day we start we'll be filled up. (This area) is the most under-served area in San Francisco."

The center will be housed in a three-floor, brick-front former convalescent hospital recently purchased by the home health service for its headquarters.

The second floor is currently leased to the Latin American National Senior Citizens Association, which provides hot meals through the Salvation Army and organizes other senior services. Haller figures many of the new center's users will be Hispanic, in addition to others who will be drawn to the 50-cent meals and related activities.

City money won't pay all the center's bills, however. "They (Home Health Service staff members) have become very good at scrounging," said Haller. "(Many of our resources) are begged, borrowed, or demanded."

One item she has her eye on currently is some means to transport senior citizens who can't drive or use the Muni. "We desperately need transportation. Transportation and housing are the two major needs of the (elderly) community, and that's not just me talking — that's the Commission on Aging," she said.

Coincidentally, a similar but smaller center is also scheduled

(Continued on Page 2)



Photo by Charles Kennard

Our science photographer shot this scene during last month's earthquake — one of the biggest since the devastating 1906.

He said his experience "not
(Continued on Page 4)

Seniors . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

to open this month at All Saints Episcopal Church, 1350 Waller St., in the Haight-Ashbury.

Under the auspices of Haight-Ashbury Senior Services, that center too plans to serve noon meals and provide a battery of medical, health and legal assistance.

Working there will be Betty Garvey, who for a number of years directed a successful seniors program here in Noe Valley at St. Philip's Catholic Church on Diamond Street. Garvey is about to undertake the study of the elderly's needs throughout the entire 5th supervisorial district.

No one knows with any certainty, but the elderly could comprise as much as 20 percent of the residents in District 5. Although they are not as concentrated or visible as the poor elderly who live in the single rooms of hotels in the Tenderloin, the aged who live in this part of town suffer from the lack of comprehensive, coordinated services.

The two new senior centers are steps toward filling the void, and Garvey's study could come up with a district-wide plan for serving older people.

Although Garvey was out of town vacationing and therefore unavailable to discuss her strategy, Nick Lederer, director of the Haight-Ashbury Senior Services, said the study had been funded for at least 10 months. "Initially, she'll study what's going on now, what people would like to have (in the way of services for the elderly), and how it can be brought about," he said.

"No one has ever done a needs assessment. People just do their little programs and it's fairly disconnected. District 5 is trying to look at things on a district-wide basis.

"My dream," he said, "is for (a facility) at the center of the district — in Eureka Valley or in Duboce Triangle."

In order to put her study together, Garvey will be working with the 5th Supervisorial District Senior Advisory Council, a group of senior activists that advises the Commission on Aging.

Photo by Charles Kennard



Carola Haller of the S. F. Home Health Service lunches with lively senior citizens at the organization's 30th Street facilities.

Chairman of that group is Sydney Greenberg, a retired chemistry professor who lives in Eureka Valley. Greenberg is as concerned about the process of serving senior citizens as he is about the final product.

"I come from the people," he said. "I believe in community control — people controlling their own destiny. . . We don't want young people, people under 40, telling older people how to live their lives."

In order for the elderly to retain control over their lives, they must get themselves organized politically, maintains Greenberg, who would like to see more participants in his Advisory Council, which meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center (18th and Collingwood Streets) beginning at 1:30 p.m.

Greenberg wants to see more multi-purpose senior centers, but he sees funding for projects like that being cut back. "That's where the fight will be," he predicted.

"Senior communities are organizing to struggle for this. The attitude of the board of supervisors and the mayor has traditionally been, 'oh, you're a bunch of nice old people, and we'll do everything for you except give you money.'"

Meanwhile, Greenberg had kind words for Rev. Carl Smith of the Noe Valley Ministry on Sanchez Street, where noon meals and a low-price produce market for senior citizens are offered. Greenberg admires Smith's ability to put together such a program "with very little money."

And "money" is the topic to which Greenberg often returns because, he said, it's at the root of senior citizens' problems.

Certainly, the elderly suffer from poor health, immobility, lack of good nutrition, loneliness and isolation.

But, said Greenberg, "the main problem with senior citizens is that they don't have enough money. They're on social security. They have fixed incomes that don't increase with inflation.

"San Francisco looks like a prosperous city," he mused. "If you went into houses (of the elderly), you'd find people aren't as prosperous as they appear. Senior citizens are the biggest thieves in supermarkets. . . Most seniors won't fight a rent increase. With the new rent control law, for example, you've got to fight an increase (to get the law enforced).

"That," he concluded, "is particularly hard on seniors who don't have the strength — or the money."

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

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Letters 15c

EDITOR:

I have been reading your paper for several months. Good work — good articles — but I was most pleasantly surprised by that full-page article in the August issue, "24th St. Revisited" by an Ellen Buoncristiani.

Having lived through the time she describes — with several teenagers, as a parent I can visualize the original visit and now the revisit so cleverly described by Ms. Buoncristiani. Rather than admonishing, preaching or teaching, she seems to have a neat way of setting the stage and the backdrop for the reader. Then she leaves the interpretation up to you. An excellent article. Speaks well for your paper. Keep up the good work.

Roy Minkler
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MINI-NEWS

Dennis Peron, the merchant prince of pot, doesn't have to worry about going to jail over his latest run-in with San Francisco narcotics agents. As he said all along, he wasn't guilty of anything.

The District Attorney's office has dropped charges against Peron which followed his arrest in July on charges of possession of marijuana and hashish with intent to sell.

"The charges were dismissed because there was insufficient evidence to show that the marijuana found on the premises actually was on Mr. Peron's premises," explained Charles Breyer, the D.A.'s chief assistant.

A little background here. Narcotics officers raided a

Western Addition house in July and arrested 16 people. A tip at that address, the officers said, led them to a Prospect Street address where they found marijuana.

Peron was arrested there. He claimed he was planning to, but had not then moved into the Prospect Street house and that, in addition, he didn't even know the people arrested in the Western Addition. The arrest was "hokey and bogus" and a political ploy by the narcotics officers, he said.

"The police are not going to be able to have me," quipped the former owner of a Eureka Valley "drug supermarket" after the dismissal decision on Aug. 21.

"That was my 13th bust and now I'm back to 12. I intend to keep it that way."



his is the time of year that delights many San Francisco parents — the start of a new school

year.

School begins Sept. 12, and an estimated 59,731 students in grades kindergarten through 12 are expected for the 1979-80 term.

Students new to the public school system may obtain information about their school assignments by calling 565-9705.

Proof of immunization against polio, measles, D.P.T. and tuberculosis is required for all kindergarten students and new admissions in other grades.

sunday

mary
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should have saved us
he couldn't rollerskate
and i couldn't dance
neither of us knew why

i felt willing to give my
whole life a try
but things like
the news
failed dinners
missed buses and the
postponed promise
kept getting in the way

sometimes the kiss works
when least expected
sometimes we get so lonely
we can't even find each
other in the dark

some afternoons are so fog-lonely
little boys just walk around
eating grape candy
and hating each other's guts

Ellen Buoncristiani
© 1979



Illustration by Kim McGinnis

Crime Rate Falls, Anxiety Rises

By Lynda Beth Unkeless

Judge Richard Figone, a member of the Municipal Court Criminal bench, was present. So were bigwig representatives from the district attorney's office, the police and fire departments.

Everyone was present at the Noe Valley Ministry, joked the judge, except for the "third corner of the triangle — the defense."

But the Aug. 8 meeting was a serious gathering of Noe Valley merchants and residents who were upset over crime in the area, highlighted by a robbery last month at the Bank of America.

The "crime symposium" was one in the police department's Project SAFE series, designed to inform citizens about ways to combat crime. It was sponsored by the Noe Valley Merchants Association.

After Figone, Police Capt. George Jeffery, Fire Lt. Charles Radford and Assistant District Attorney Raymond Erlach gave

at that intersection, Jeffery believes that the area needs more facilities for neighborhood kids and he urged interested citizens to work to acquire them.

Leard, in an interview, said he believed the behavior of the young people had worsened since the passage of Proposition 13 and the subsequent cutback in public funding for area parks.

Meanwhile, crime in Noe Valley is "generally down," according to Capt. Jeffery. Rapes, aggravated assaults and thefts were lower in July than June, he said, but robberies and burglaries rose slightly.

Asked to compare the crime situation in Noe Valley with that of other San Francisco neighborhoods, Jeffery said, "It is in the upper 25 percent of overall safety quality in the City."

However, 24th Street did have its share of sensational news.

On Aug. 15 at 2 p.m., a woman walked into the Bank of America branch, 4098 - 24th St., and



Photo by Charles Kennard

Speaking at a recent crime symposium were (l. to r.) Police Capt. George Jeffery, Fire Lt. Charles Radford, Judge Richard Figone, and Assistant District Attorney Raymond Erlach.

brief descriptions of their departments, those in attendance — about 30 persons — addressed the majority of their questions to the incidence of crime in the streets.

Ironically, the symposium took place the same day that a coalition of merchants and residents met with Mayor Dianne Feinstein to protest increased street harassment and vandalism in the Mission District from 16th to Army Streets.

The coalition charged that there had been a tremendous increase in crime in their neighborhood since Feinstein instituted a crackdown in the Tenderloin about nine months ago.

In response to that complaint, Jeffery, commander of the Mission District, said, "The real problem is one of warehousing too many kids who have no place to go."

He was referring to the large numbers of juveniles who congregate at the intersection of 24th and Mission Streets. They are attracted there, the captain said, by the opposite sex, fast-food restaurants, BART, six bus lines, and the low-rider car clubs whose members cruise the streets surrounding that intersection.

Like Clyde Leard, owner of the Alley Scoop Ice Cream Parlor

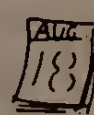
pushed a note to the teller demanding "all the big bills." The teller complied, but the woman demanded even more money, and got it.

The robbery netted the woman about \$900, according to San Francisco police.

In addition, the Olympic Savings and Loan Association, at 24th and Noe Streets, and Gibraltar Savings and Loan, 4040 - 24th St., were held up in July.

Police said they arrested a suspect and charged him with both robberies.

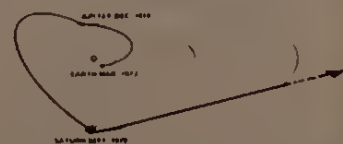
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PIONEER 11 FLIGHT PATH





This is a southbound view of Sanchez Street, a one-block strip that united a neighborhood against City Hall and the State. The battle began after the upper right portion of the street, traditionally a two-way road, was deemed by a bureaucratic nitpicker to be legally a one-way street. And if you had to go as many as 15 blocks to get to the bottom of the hill, well that's tough.

One Way To Fight City Hall

(Continued from Page 1)

outsiders as well ignored the one-way sign, raising the spectre of a crippling head-on collision. So the neighbors began to fight to have the sign taken down.

Led by Fowler and Robert Lucas, of Sanchez Street, they appealed to former supervisor Dan White, chairman of the Police, Fire and Safety Committee of the Board of Supervisors. White didn't appear in favor of the change and decided to wait a while before reaching a decision.

"About a week later he resigned and you know what happened after that," Fowler said, referring to White's shooting and fatally wounding Mayor George Moscone and District 5 supervisor Harvey Milk.

The City's Department of Public Works was on the side of maintaining the street sign. The department had found a section of the California Vehicular Code that said any street division over two feet wide — as the median was in this case — must have traffic that flows one way.

With new supervisor Harry Britt pushing the citizens' cause as had Milk, the issue came before the committee again. This time the residents had a petition signed by some 60 neighbors, including Superior Court Judge

Jay Pfotenhauer, acting as a private citizen.

But the committee heard from the City Attorney's office, which advised that it was illegal to return the street to two-way traffic. The opinion had been requested by Gilbert Boreman, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, who didn't want them passing an illegal law.

Britt, however, got the question postponed. Then he invited representatives from the City Attorney's office and the Department of Public Works to actually view the site.

"It was very clear as we all stood there on a clear morning that Sanchez Street... was not a divided highway and therefore was not breaking the California Vehicular Code," Britt said.

Paula Jesson, the deputy city attorney who wrote the first opinion, wholeheartedly agreed. "I hadn't seen it when I wrote the first opinion," she told the Voice. "Two-way traffic is a benefit, not a detriment."

The supervisors said okay and the sign will be taken down any day now, if it hasn't been already, although Al Fowler, for one, believes the whole affair was ludicrous.

"This was incredible to me," he said. "It was all about changing one block from one-way to two-way traffic."

St. Clair...

(Continued from Page 1)

only as a former captain of the team but also as a former elected official for 14 years made it a natural for me."

Each morning St. Clair dons a royal blue running suit and worn running shoes. The gray streaks in his thick sandy hair, restrained by a white terrycloth sweat band, provide the only clue to his 48 years. He keeps as trim as he was as a player by jogging five miles each day in Golden Gate Park.

Since he retired, the towering former athlete (he is 6'8") has been mayor of Daly City and a member of the Daly City Council. He has been a member of the San Mateo Board of Supervisors and headed it as well.

As president of the Noe Valley Merchants Association, he took an active role in encouraging the blossoming of the Noe Valley Street Fair and mediated many of the conflicts surrounding the rezoning of 24th Street.

St. Clair lost a bid for the State Senate (a special election was called when Mayor George Moscone vacated his seat) and later was defeated by Harvey Milk in the 1978 supervisorial race. He placed fourth.

Recently he spent an evening in Palo Alto volunteering his help for the Special Olympics Golf Tournament (an event for handicapped persons).

"The only active part I've taken in sports since I retired is with the Special Olympics," he said. "That was a pet project that I had when I was president of the Board of Supervisors. The program was up for cancellation because of a tightness of funds. I personally lobbied to keep the program on," he said.

St. Clair takes pride in his accomplishment. His ruggedly handsome face becomes very earnest and his green eyes sprout crow's-feet as he smiles widely.

"People keep telling them (the handicapped) all their lives, you can't do that, you can't do that," he said. "Here is a program that tells them yes, I can do it." He finds his involvement with handi-

capped athletes "extremely rewarding. All someone has to do is to go out there," he said, "and you would break the toughest person in the world."

Like many professional athletes, St. Clair has appeared in numerous beer and hair oil television commercials. He was the guy with soft, fluffy golden hair who advised his slick friend, "Hey, kid, don't use that greasy kid stuff. Use Vitalis." Rather than retire into the pre-ordained professions of most former athletes — real estate, car sales or insurance, St. Clair opted for a political future.

"In San Francisco, in the Mission District where I was raised," he said, "I was the leader of my gang in the school yard. Maybe it was because of my size," he suggested semi-seriously. "I don't know what it was, but I always took this role of leadership." St. Clair was class president, and president of Poly High School's student body. He later majored in business at the University of San Francisco.

St. Clair officially registered as a lobbyist on Aug. 20. To break his ties with San Francisco, he has sold his liquor store and his personal property here. He said he frankly was bored with his business.

"I've been there for 20 years," he explained, "and I just felt it was time for a change. I thought the only way to do it is to sell everything first and worry about what I'm gonna do later, which is kind of scary for me. But I knew that would be the only way I'd be able to get out. Otherwise," he added, "I would be there for another 20 years."

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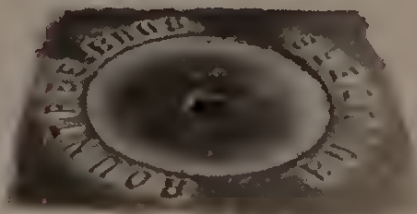
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ARTIFACTS

By Judith Lynch Waldhorn



Photos by Peter Bennett

Historian Judith Waldhorn has pursued a number of subtle clues to pinpoint the story of a cluster of Stick-style Victorian homes on Sanchez Street. The sewer grate serves as a "sidewalk calling card," identifying the builders.

Stick Victorians and Their Sidewalk Calling Cards

Noe Valley has a rich Victorian architectural heritage, the embellished products of the hundreds of contractors and architects who built here during the 19th century. The cluster at 1306-20 Sanchez St. is a good example of the revived Victorians brightening so many of the City's older neighborhoods. There you can also discover a unique gift to Noe Valley, a delightful concoction of tile and greenery created by local ceramic sculptor Sonda.

The four Stick-style homes in this cluster were built by James E. Schulz, who described himself in the 1890s as an architect, carpenter and contractor. This group of houses is mentioned in the "Building Intelligence" column of the August, 1892, California Architect and Building News. The homes cost \$1,600 to build, the average cost of a single-family dwelling for that decade in San Francisco.

The four houses were built in 1892, but they share the shape and details that characterize the buildings of the 1880s. All have rectangular bay windows, whose 90-degree angles were easily mass-produced and quickly assembled on the construction site. This particular shape of bay window was a design innovation. In the 1870s, San Francisco houses had five-sided bay windows, whose intricate configuration required complicated carpentry and joinery, both inside and out.

The houses in this group also sport the exuberant geometric redwood "gingerbread" that was available in abundant variety from more than 1,600 millworks across the United States in the 1880s. This mass production by carving, molding and turning machines meant that even a person of modest means could have a home lavished with "fancywork."

These houses on Sanchez Street also have another special distinction. When you visit, look closely at the sidewalk near the curb. There you will find what the City's sanitation workers call "fresh air inlets" — 8-inch squares of cast iron with round pierced insets. People who enjoy looking at Victorian houses use them as "sidewalk calling cards," as a clue to the builder, plumber or paver who first worked on a building, but they have a less elegant name: sewer grates. They vent trapped gas to prevent it from burbling up into the house. These practical reminders of Victorian times also can aid the researcher; more than 500 different grates can be found along the streets in the City's older sections.

There are four clues to the origins of the Sanchez Street houses. The Rountree Brothers have installed their sewer vent near 1320 Sanchez St. They were prominent builders and developers who played an important role in Victorian San Francisco. The commissioned architect W. H. Lillie to design two "Rountree Blocks"; you can still see them at 108-24 Lyon St. and 2269-95 Washington St. The firm also built the landmark "Atherton" house, the towered and brooding Queen Anne at 1990 California St.

J. Dutton was a plumber whose business was located at 515 Hickory Ave. in the Western Addition. His sewer grate is another of those in the cluster. Both a sewer vent and an embossed trademark proclaim that C. C. W. Haun, 413 - 28th St., installed the "Art Stone," as sidewalk paving was called in those days.

One resident of this cluster of houses has given the neighborhood a present — a shade-dappled vestpocket plaza that makes the front of 1316 Sanchez St. an inviting spot to visit. Her creation includes a bench, a sidewalk mural, steps and a wall of her handmade painted tiles. Sonda, the artist, has lived on the block since 1964; she planted the trees soon after she moved in. An inscription on the wall reads, "dedicated for the enjoyment of the community, in loving memory of my daughter, Linda, a crippled child. Sonda, 1978." Linda spent many hours on the front steps talking with neighbors; her memory lives on in the tile and greenery of the tiny oasis.

Sonda describes herself as an environmental sculptor; she says she



Illustration by Kim McGinnis

REVIEW

From Earthbound to Windbourne

THE WANDERGROUND: Stories of the Hill Women

By Sally Miller Gearhart

Persephone Press, 1978, 196 pages, \$5

Reviewed by Lynn Rogers

"Women became more and more divided. All the freaky-looking ones were rounded up —... those who wouldn't wear even long hippie-type dresses, ... the kind that would rather be with women than with men, or the kind that gave their husbands even a taste of a hard time... Only the ones who looked and behaved like ladies had a chance. And they weren't about to defend women who refused to conform..."

"Then the misfit women began leaving the cities, heading for the hills, going toward rumors of country women who lived off the land, isolated and self-sufficient."

Once in the country, the women's psychic and physical powers grew and grew. Over many years, they developed the ability to communicate mentally with animals (especially with cats, of course), with plants and trees and rocks, and with each other over vast distances. They developed incredible endurance so that they could run across the plains effortlessly for hours or go for days on little food or rest. Some of them learned "wind-riding," and in the state of "Footloose" made the shift from "earthbound to being windbourne." Others held long sessions with the moon, seeking her guidance.

Meanwhile, the cities continued to develop along the lines set down for them by Hugh Hefner and Larry Flint. The hill women went on "rotations" there. Disguised as men, they tried to contain the rampant violence and to establish an alliance with the "gentles" — the non-macho men.

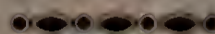
THE WANDERGROUND is a fascinating book — a book of prophecy as well as fantasy, a book that little by little draws the reader into its core and then into the reader's own core. In the end, one wonders why she doesn't try harder to live "wide and deep," sure and connected to all things in nature.

It's such a scary book, too. When one looks around and really sees the reactionary way many men are responding to the feminist movement — the rising incidence of rape, of wife battering, of pornographic excess — one feels there truly may be a round-up of "misfits" in the not too distant future. And one sees the division among women — the ones who dress like real-life Barbie dolls looking in disgust at the ones who dress like farmhands looking in disgust at the ones who dress like "ladies" — all these "dress codes" merely the outward reflections of the inner decisions to conform or rebel.

Most of all, one sees the constant and continuous rape of the earth. Deforestation, strip-mining, desertification. In Uganda, Idi Amin's soldiers shot all the wild animals as the army retreated toward Tanzania; in Oakland and Chicago, vandals stoned and beat to death caged wallabies and peacocks. Will it stop while there is still something left to save, while the human spirit has still not become too isolated and gluttonous to care? Will we yet take up the TASK, as Gearhart puts it:

To work as if the earth, the mother, can be saved.
To work as if our healing care were not too late.
Work to stay the slayer's hand, helping him to change
Or helping him to die.
Work as if the earth, the mother, can be saved.

takes "garbage from debris boxes" and turns it into art. She views the City and its streets as a gallery in which we all live, play and walk. Her vision can help us appreciate the contribution made to the streets of Noe Valley by Victorian builders of the last century and by contemporary revivalists. Sonda's delight in her home is contagious; if you are interested in her work, call 285-1121.



NOTE: Judith Lynch Waldhorn is on the staff of the San Francisco History Room of the Main Library. She is coordinator of City Guides, volunteers who are the history "ambassadors" of San Francisco. For more information about Victorian neighborhoods, listen to "A Walk with Judith," KALW-FM, 91.7, Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 9 a.m. If you have suggestions for future columns, please write to her in care of the Noe Valley Voice.

A Directory of Noe Valley Childcare

by Nina Goldfeather

"Quality Day Care" is the new social banner for mothers. Educational theories in the last two decades stress the advantages of exposing very young children to challenging environments outside the home. Working mothers need a program for their preschool children so they can leave each day with the knowledge that their child's time will be well-spent. Today's more affluent parents want a flexible lifestyle, with opportunities to achieve, create or earn salaries while their children are still little.

Available programs range from free to quite expensive. There are three common approaches to childcare: traditional babysitting; progressive and unstructured learning situations; or structured activity sessions.

The daycare resources in Noe Valley are varied in approach, costs and length of sessions. Your first stop when investigating programs for your child should be the Childcare Switchboard.

Childcare Switchboard

The Childcare Switchboard - Children's Council, 3896-24th St., 282-7858, is a private, non-profit agency which provides free information and referral services to parents and childcare providers in San Francisco. Concerned staff members help parents find the childcare program that fits their individual needs—private or public, full or part-time, at convenient locations, and within the family budget.

Inquiring parents are referred to centers, family daycare homes, co-ops, playgroups or babysitters. The Switchboard has up-to-date information on openings in the various programs, and maintains an interest in the child's eventual placement.

The Childcare Switchboard's bi-monthly newsletter, "Children's News Advocate," keeps consumers current on childcare issues and legislation, events and afterschool programs for children, and workshops for parents. The September issue will contain full information on fall openings. For a subscription to the newsletter, call 282-7858.

Hours for the Switchboard are 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. As it is sometimes difficult to get through by phone, it is recommended that you stop in at the 24th Street office and browse through the pamphlets and bulletin board notices, and speak to the staff members in person. You can even bring your children—a special play area has been provided.

Many daycare facilities exist in Noe Valley; however the programs described below are those listed by the Childcare Switchboard. These long-standing programs present only examples of daycare available in this neighborhood.

Wind in the Willow

Wind in the Willow, 1448 Church St., 285-5510, is a private daycare center which offers full- and part-time sessions for children ranging in age from 2-1/2 years to 5 years. Each session takes 18 children, supervised by two teachers, Janice Polizzi and Betsy Helgersen. In this program, parent involvement is encouraged but not required.

Wind in the Willow provides a small and intimate setting, where teachers help children deal with their feelings, and introduce them to a wide range of experience. The center offers free play, alternated with supervised activities and field trips.

Tuition for 9 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. sessions, five days a week, is \$180 a month; if your child attends either the morning or afternoon session, it's \$100 for five days, \$60 per month for three days. Afterschool programs are available for \$2.50 an hour for one child and \$3.50 an hour for two. There are several openings for fall sessions.

Buen Dia Family School

Buen Dia Family School, 589 Guerrero St. (at 18th), 431-3535, is also a full and part-time daycare center. Children between 2-1/2 and 6 years are accepted with a limit of 24 children per session. Both Spanish and English are spoken.

Free play, cognitive tasks, arts and crafts, and reading are all part of the daily routine at this center. Children bring their lunches and snacks are available. The indoor and outdoor play areas provide challenge and fun.

Children must attend a minimum of six hours per day. The cost is \$170 per month for hours 7:45 a.m. to 6 p.m. and \$140 per month for 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (preschool). One scholarship is available. At this time, there are openings for girls only, but the waiting list for boys is short.

Noe Valley Nursery School

Noe Valley Nursery School, 1021 Sanchez St. (Noe Valley Ministry building), 647-2278, is a community-based, cooperative daycare center. Morning sessions (9 to 12) include 25 children who range in age from 2-1/2 to 5 years old. They are supervised by the director, Nina Zimpel, and five parents. Strong parent participation is the key to this cooperative daycare program. Workdays are assigned to each parent according to how many days their child attends. Attendance at two evening meetings per month is also required.

Linda Mickelson, a parent and president of the parent board, and Laura Friedman, parent and vice president, both find their work at the school a wonderful way to share experiences with their children and "thoroughly enjoyable."

The indoor area occupies several rooms (currently being redecorated) on the bottom floor of the church, including a kitchen, large play area and crafts room. Outdoors, there is a yard with climbing equipment. Parents provide the activities—there is no strict daily routine. Field trips are included as often as possible. The children are encouraged to work things out for themselves, and learn to get along with each other peacefully.

Cost for the program is \$24 a month for three sessions per week, \$32 for four, and \$40 for five. There are some openings for fall. For information, call Caroline Huysentruyt, membership person, at 282-1423.

Rocky Mountain Co-op

The Rocky Mountain Co-op, 15th and Beaver Streets, 552-2929, comes under the auspices of the San Francisco Community College District. Sessions are from 9 to 12 mornings, with extended afternoon care also available. Head teacher Effie Schwartzchild and participating parents supervise sessions of 28 children, ages 3 to 6. One morning per week is required of each parent, as well as attendance at one Wednesday night meeting per month.

This co-op is a bilingual daycare program, where parents determine and supervise much of the activities. Indoor and outdoor areas compose the classroom setting. Meals and snacks are served, with ethnic food prepared by parents adding a distinctive touch to this co-op.

Rates for this program are \$27.50 per month for regular three-hour per day attendance, and \$1 per hour for afternoon care.

Kid's Corner

Kid's Corner Co-op, 312 - 29th St., 648-7222, is a full- and part-time cooperative day care center, taking children ages 2-1/2 to 5, 24

(Continued on Page 7)

Nestlé Boycott



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Childcare . . .

(Continued from Page 6)

children per session, supervised by a teacher and six parents. Parent involvement is required on approximately a one day a week basis, and one or two evening meetings per month. Indoors, there are two rooms for learning centers, art, reading, and science programs, as well as puzzles and blocks, etc., for fun. In the morning sessions, children help cook meals and engage in play activities. Afternoon sessions are more structured and geared toward learning, similar to a prekindergarten. Priority is given to Third World families.

Costs are \$34 per month for four sessions per week, and \$40 for five. There are six or seven openings for fall.

Little People's Co-op

Little People's Co-op, 4284 - 23rd St., 648-3989 (school) and 826-2837 (Judith Davis), is another cooperative daycare program in the Noe Valley neighborhood. Children aged 2-1/2 to 5 compose classes of 16 children, supervised by one teacher and two parents. One enrollment requirement is that the child be toilet-trained, and priority is given to a child who will balance the group by age and sex. Following the basic co-op format, the school requires parent participation.

Little People's Co-op occupies one floor of a house, and a backyard. Lunch and snacks are provided by the parents working that day. Hours of the school are from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and the cost is \$55 per month. At this time, there are seven openings for fall.

29th St. Feminist Community Childcare Center

The 29th St. Feminist Community Childcare Center, 386 - 29th St., 285-0426, is an independent co-op organized to meet a community need for fulltime daycare. Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Twelve children, 2-1/2 to 4 years, are supervised by three adults. Parents work two shifts per week or pay \$10 to hire a substitute. Cost is \$30 to \$40 per month for a co-op plan, and \$110 to \$120 for non-co-op.

Family Care

Family daycare, in private homes, offers an alternative form of childcare. The family orientation fills the gap for younger children who still require potty-training and a home environment. These programs are categorized by age and training level of the child, and referrals are made through the Childcare Switchboard.

The average cost of family daycare is \$30 to \$40 per week. All private home family daycare programs are licensed through the Department of Social Services, and must meet health and safety standards. Homes accommodate an average of five children, and most often the provider has one or two of her own as part of the group.

Linda George, formerly a provider of family daycare in Noe Valley for children aged 2 to 4, described the program as one where "the children feel at home. They can paint, dress up, play house, and play with toys and games geared especially for them." She said parents generally became friends through their children and often established a network to help each other out in emergencies.



Photo by Chuck Ford

Numerous daycare resources are available to Noe Valley's working parents — for a price.

Public School Programs

Under the jurisdiction of the S. F. Unified School District, there are three public daycare programs located in Noe Valley: Edison Children's Center, 990 Church St., 647-8013 (head teacher - Mary Moore); Yoey Playgroup, 325 Sanchez St., 626-9666 (head teacher - Gail Danchig); and Kate Kennedy Children's Center, 1670 Noe St., 647-1193 (head teacher - Barbara Edwards). Centers are fulltime and free, but enormous waiting lists discourage the average consumer. Interested parents must fill out an application to determine eligibility, and then await a decision based on age and sex, application date, and eligibility category. For example, AFDC recipients who are single working mothers are given preference.

The desperate need for free or inexpensive fulltime daycare comes to the attention of staff members at the Childcare Switchboard every day. David Roche, a phone worker there for seven years, spoke sadly about the effect of Proposition 13 on public daycare. With the cutback in funds for schools, competent and experienced early childhood teachers have been laid off, he said. They are sometimes replaced by high-seniority secondary school teachers, but more often the cutbacks remain in force, raising the child-teacher ratio.

The only alternatives to public daycare are expensive childcare centers, or co-ops requiring parent participation. Neither of these options meets the needs of the fulltime working mother whose income is not high. Roche sees this as "an attack on working women, a feminist issue." The practical reality that there is little available for less than \$100 a month in fulltime daycare bears out this statement.

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"Housing is proving itself to be possibly the greatest failure of the American economic system." — "anti-planner" Chester Hartman

By Steve Steinberg

In Chester Hartman's modest blue-trimmed home tucked away on Elizabeth Street, you can't find blueprints or scale models for cities of the future — the usual tools of the urban planner.

In Hartman's scheme, planning means more than configurations on a drafting table. It signifies human concern and community involvement.

"The reason that cities exist, that housing exists, that community facilities exist, is to meet people's needs... and not to profit somebody. I think the whole society should be structured that way."

Meeting people's needs, particularly those involving housing, has been a long-time preoccupation for Hartman, who taught at Harvard until he was dismissed for bringing politics into the classroom; who has written numerous books and articles on the quality of urban life; who helped organize resistance to the Yerba Buena convention center; and who is now one of the Bay Area's guiding forces in the struggle for tenant rights.

To Hartman, 43, the nemesis of decent housing in the United States is the mortgage system. He would like to see that method of finance abandoned and replaced by a system of grants from government.

"You could reduce everyone's housing costs by half," he said, "if they didn't have to pay mortgage costs."

Hartman concedes that such a scheme amounts to the socializa-

tion of the housing sector of the American economy.

Hartman, who moved to Noe Valley in 1972, developed his controversial views over a 20-year period as a "counter-planner," opposing the accepted norms of the urban planning profession.

"(There is a) clash between what people want out of city life and what governments and the private market tends to impose on them," he said.

Born in New York City, Hartman attended Harvard University, majoring in Germanic languages and literature. After graduation he was for a time at an impasse as to his choice of career.

He eventually settled upon a design-oriented city planning program at Harvard. He admits that the program initially had little emotional appeal for him and that he considered leaving it at one point. But his interest sharpened after switching to a curriculum emphasizing the political and sociological aspects of urban planning. In 1967 he obtained his Ph. D. in city and regional planning.

Even before he achieved his doctorate, Hartman had begun to evolve an approach to urban planning that would become the basis for his maverick beliefs.

While still a graduate student, he obtained a job as a consultant with the "West End Project," a federally funded study of the effects of forced urban relocation. Hartman worked under Dr. Erich Lindemann, a Massachusetts psychiatrist who had done considerable research on the "grievous reaction" — the psychological



Photo by Charles Kennard

Chester Hartman, trained in city and regional planning, puts his energies into making housing for people, not profits.

adaption of individuals to the loss of a loved one.

Lindemann attempted to prove that the same forces of grief and adaptation operate when urban redevelopment moved people out of their homes. With Lindemann and others, Hartman gathered information on displaced residents of what proved to be a closely knit Boston community designated for "slum clearance." Hartman's research revealed that death and displacement do, indeed, have a common ground.

"We interviewed people two years later," Hartman recalled, "and asked them a question: 'How (did) you feel when you saw a home being torn down,' and they started crying — two years later."

Unfortunately, Hartman sees the same processes of urban dislocation still in operation today — with the poor most often bearing the brunt of imposed urban renewal.

In an article recently published in the journal "Social Policy," Hartman contends that government officials have ignored studies on the effects of forced dislocation: "The fact is, most of those who could do something about the problem of displacement are fully aware that it exists and of what could be done to alleviate it."

He goes on to describe the rationale of urban policy makers in their failure to correct this

problem: "These officials continue to be convinced that the city's problems are essentially due to the flight or absence of the middle class and overconcentration of the poor and that urban problems can be ameliorated if the middle class replaced the poor."

Hartman's research and experience with the West End Project as well as with other urban renewal projects was later to become distilled in his book "Yerba Buena, Land Grab and Community Resistance in San Francisco." In it, he tells of the uprooting of the South of Market community to make way for the Yerba Buena convention center and how that community fought back to win a measure of victory over city planners and developers.

After his West End experience, Hartman went on to teach city planning at Harvard. But at the same time he began to organize city planners and urban planning students to oppose urban development conflicting with community opinion.

In the Cambridge area, such opposition was directed against Harvard University, Hartman's own employer. In 1970, after Hartman lent his active support to a series of student strikes, Harvard declined to renew his teaching contract. The University accused him of attempting to

(Continued on Page 9)

Self-conscious poem to you (sweetheart)

In view of the pervading circumstances and keeping in mind the general state of things and with an eye to what we must always consider, at times I would be your slave; and with regard to the facts of the situation and in all awareness of the improbability of success, I often feel you as my breath in the night; in keeping with my policy of restraint and insistence on dealing only with the facts, something in my heart sings thank-you-jesus for your face. I may love you, for what that is worth in days of pride and blame. I may have wanted to keep you forever (had it been the best of all worlds)

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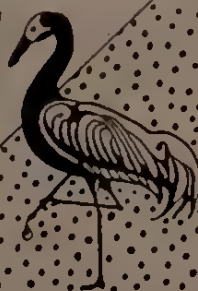


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Hartman . . .

(Continued from Page 8)

politicize his students.

But for Hartman, urban planning neither was nor is a "neutral" profession. "If there's a piece of land at Kearny and Washington," he argued, "and if the people who live in the (International) Hotel want it, that's one thing. And if Four Seas (development company) wants it, that's another thing." There's no public good or public interest way of resolving that. They're two entirely competing, conflicting sets of interests, and the city planner like anyone else should be taking sides in that and using his professional skills to aide one side or the other."

In Hartman's view, many city planners have until fairly recently served the interests and values of the propertied classes — often in the guise of public good — at the expense of the poor and powerless.

His Harvard teaching career behind him, Hartman moved to San Francisco where he continued his "anti-planning," oppositional brand of urban planning, first as a consultant with a Bay Area resource center for neighborhood legal services and then as an independent planner and housing advocate. In 1975 Hartman founded the Planner's Network, a national communication and action network of "radical" urban planners and community

organizers. The group now has approximately 1,000 members.

At about the same time Hartman became involved with the tenants' movement in California, seeing in its goals an extension of his own perceptions. Last year, he headed the unsuccessful Proposition U campaign to provide rent rebates to tenants in the wake of Proposition 13.

This year he is a co-chair of San Franciscans for Affordable Housing, a coalition of labor, renter and community groups attempting to bring housing reform to the city.

Although Hartman is deeply involved in housing reform, he rejects the term "housing reformer" for himself. "I'm always torn between seeing the need for some kind of housing changes and reforms such as rent control, and at the same time my analysis of the housing system and the broader economic system (suggests) that it's not going to do much good. . . that the real problems in housing are much more structural and deeply rooted."

He also has hopes of "demythifying" the urban planning profession and allowing community groups to decide the shape of their cities and neighborhoods. "I really do believe that the average person who lives in the city is one of the best planners around," he said. "They know what's right or wrong with city life. The worst plans are those that come from the drafting tables."

When he applies his theories to Noe Valley, Hartman comes up with mixed reactions. While he enjoys the commercial diversity of 24th Street, he fears an unlimited proliferation of bars, restaurants and boutiques may turn the area into another Union Street.

He dreads the day a traffic light is installed at 24th and Church Streets, replacing the existing four-way stop signs.

"When you're at a four-way traffic sign," he said, "there's a whole interaction that goes on between drivers. In New York, you couldn't have four-way traffic signs; there just isn't that level of civility. Here, I always love to see the taking of turns. It's almost like a constant restatement of that behavior. . . the way in which people give something."

Hartman is also concerned that the area is condensing into a white-collar, professional, single-class neighborhood. That process, according to Hartman, is reflected in the spiraling costs of rents and home ownership.

"It's creepy living in a place that I know I couldn't afford to live in if I had to start now," he added.

Although he feels Noe Valley has lately become a more expensive place to live, he does not foresee developers coming in and destroying the Valley's charm. He is hopeful that the area can maintain a balance between sophisticated city life and small town simplicity.

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CHEAP ADVERTISING! Publicize your garage sale in the Noe Valley Voice Classifieds. 10 cents a word. Send ad copy and check or money order to 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, 94114, by the 20th of the month preceding month of issue.



Rampant housing costs consume an ever-increasing proportion of income, thanks to speculation and the mortgage system. ©Photo by Charles Kennard

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The Questing Person

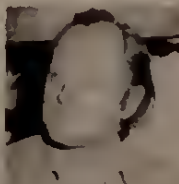
Ever in search of meaning, The Questing Person goes out among us in search of its quest for meaning. This month's quest:

WHAT WILL YOU BE DOING TWO HUNDRED YEARS FROM NOW?

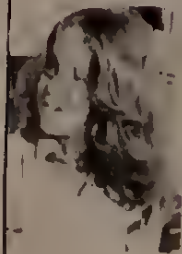


Helen Webber, artist: I will be a 400-pound woman, a very large creature wearing purple flowing robes, and I will be very revered by people in my culture who will think that older people are wiser. Every wrinkle on my face will be counted and worshipped, and there will be salons to encourage maintenance and development of cracks, crinkles and crevices and all the patina of age.

Jim Petersen, writer: Since I'll wind up establishing a chain of piano-jazz clubs to which children will be invited, in 200 years I'll probably be busy turning it over to children's management. There'll always be children, I hope.



Colleen Ponce, eighth grade student: I hope to be in heaven. Living it up in paradise.



"Jolan": I won't be here so I'm not interested.



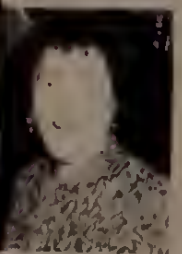
Maria Mirbach, student of psychology: I will travel a lot. There will be no cars, just trains under the earth, so no more streets, more landscape. To make more room, we will build islands on the sea. I plan to live on one of these islands. It will be a very open, free society. (I know because two months ago I took a seminar about the future: "Future Workshop.")



Laverne Purnell, bank teller: I'll be dead, but I hope to be a rich millionaire, seriously. I hope heaven's not like this, believe me.



Jane Bach, real estate broker: I would come back as a very wealthy person so I would only work as I wanted to, live wherever I wanted, the way I wanted.



Ed Augusts, realtor-associate: In 200 years I'll have a long gray beard and I'll be subdividing land on one of the outer planets of the solar system. (Of Jupiter. Rents might be low there because it's a methane world.)



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## Storetrek

NOE VALLEY DELI  
24th Street near Noe

With a new name, a new sign, and a new face, the Noe Valley Deli opened on the former site of Fat Ron's sub shop on July 17.

Karim Balad, the new owner, brings lots of experience in restaurant management to 24th Street, and has already attracted new customers with the addition of new offerings, such as hommos and eggplant dip. Much of the fare, including salads, roast beef, turkey, deviled eggs, and falafel, is prepared fresh daily by Mr. Balad and his wife Saheer.

More changes are in the works, as Mr. Balad plans to get an espresso machine soon, and hopes to eventually convert the deli to a restaurant, with a



new menu.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., except Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

PHOTOGRAPHIC  
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*Renee LaFarge*

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## NOE VALLEY CINEMA

Films are shown Fridays at 8 p.m. at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. near 23rd. \$1 members, \$2 general. Piano accompaniment by Robert Heilbuth.

Sept. 7 COMEDY: Academy Award winner "The Golden Age of Comedy," 1958; Laurel and Hardy in "Blockheads."

Sept. 14 Alfred Hitchcock's "The Lady Vanishes," 1938, with Michael Redgrave; plus (short) Barrie Nelson's "Twins," 1975.

Sept. 21 "Algiers," 1939, with Charles Boyer and Hedy Lamarr; plus (short) "Newspaper of 1939" and (short) "Popeye meets Aladin and his Wonderful Lamp."

Sept. 28 BETTY BOOP FESTIVAL: The best of the Boops including appearances by Koko the Clown and Bimbo, along with the jazz of Cab Calloway and Louis Armstrong.



## Classism

A conference on the Health Effects of Low-Level Radiation will be held Sept. 7 and 8 at Fort Mason Center, Marina and Laguna Boulevards, sponsored by the Coalition for the Medical Rights of Women. \$10 regular admission, \$20 Continuing Education admission. Call 621-8030 for information and registration, or Diane Carr at the S. F. Women's Health Center, 282-6999.

The Mission YMCA will begin its afterschool program for children in kindergarten through fifth grade on the first day of school. Your child can be picked up at his/her school dismissal time, and the "Y" offers full-day care on school holidays. Sign up early by calling 586-6900, or drop in at 4080 Mission St. (near Bosworth).

Drama workshops for children 6 and older will be led by Christine Helbing at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St., on Thursday, Sept. 6 and Thursday, Sept. 13. Call 285-2788 for more information.

Perinatal Education classes will begin Thursday, Sept. 20, at the S. F. Women's Health Center, 3789 - 24th St. The classes will continue for eight weeks, and are held at 7 p.m.

Julia Isaacs will teach a class called "Movement for Performers of all Kinds," Thursdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. Fee for the class is

\$3 per session. Call 282-2317 for more information.

Health Education Seminars is sponsoring a workshop on Cancer Counseling for Health Practitioners on Sept. 18 and 19 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The workshop will be led by cancer and health counselor Claudia S. Dayton. The fee for the workshop is \$40, plus \$10 if Continuing Education credit is desired. Call 282-7999 for registration.

Terry Chan will teach T'ai Chi movement exercise classes at the Noe Valley Ministry Mondays at 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays at 11 a.m., and Fridays and Saturdays at 10 a.m. There will be minimum of 10 people per class, and the fee is \$2.50 per class. Call 282-2317 for more information.

Evening adult classes begin Sept. 17 at the Mission YMCA, 4080 Mission St. Courses are offered in Shaping Up, Home Repairs, Folk Dancing, Calligraphy, Drawing, Jazz Dance, and Pre- and Post-Natal Exercises. Call 586-6900 for more information.

Jazz Dance classes for Levels I and II will be taught by Susan Rubin at the Bush St. Studio (between Polk and Van Ness) starting Sept. 10, every Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Call 776-8605 for prices and information.

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# CALENDAR

Sept. 9 Community Potluck Dinner at 6 p.m., followed at 8 p.m. by an Anti-Therapy Seminar led by Anne Robbins. Cooperative Community Center, New College of California, 777 Valencia St. 552-5445.

Sept. 12 Noe Valley Merchants Association monthly meeting. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 13 Friends of Noe Valley General Membership Meeting. Election of officers. Screening of "Disaster at Dawn," film about 1906 earthquake; speaker from Mayor's Office of Emergency Services. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 15 20th anniversary benefit dance for the San Francisco Mime Troupe. California Hall, Polk and Turk Streets. 9 p.m. \$3.50 in advance, \$4 at the door. Call 285-1717 for reservations.

Sept 15 and 22 Free City Guide Walking Tour of Noe Valley, led by Judith Waldhorn. Tour starts at 2 p.m. at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St., and lasts for 1 hour. 558-3981.

Sept. 17 An Introduction to Oriental Health Arts: Chinese yoga — Chi-Kung — taught by Jeffrey Antin. Donation. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2317.

Sept. 18 Slide presentation by Ismael Rodriguez: "The Venceremos Brigade, Eleventh Contingent, Visits Cuba, May 1979." Mission Branch Library, 3359 - 24th St. 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 19 Planning meeting for people interested in working on Noe Valley Archives. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 20 Introduction to Cervical Self-Exam, S. F. Women's Health Center, 3789 - 24th St. 7:30 p.m. \$3.

Sept. 22 Fertility Awareness Workshop, S. F. Women's Health Center, 3789 - 24th St. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$25. Call 282-6999 to register.

Sept. 24 An Introduction to Oriental Health Arts: Acupressure or Cultural Self-Massage, taught by Jeffrey Antin. Donation. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2317.

Sept. 25 Films and slides by naturalist filmmaker Richard Lair. Mission Branch Library, 3359 - 24th St. 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 25 Children's films at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. For preschoolers at 10:30 a.m., for older children at 4 p.m. Call 285-2788.

Sept. 28 Gay Freedom Day Marching Band Benefit Performance. Warfield Theatre, 8 p.m. 826-1538.

Sept. 30 Noe Valley Neighborhood Picnic at upper level of Douglass Playground, at Douglass and 27th Streets, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Volleyball, music, softball, games for children. Bring your own blanket and food. Sponsored by Friends of Noe Valley.

Oct. 3 Candidates Nights for mayor, district attorney and sheriff, and 4 sponsored by Friends of Noe Valley. James Lick auditorium. 1220 Noe Street. 8 p.m.

Please send CALENDAR items before the 20th day of the month preceding month of issue, to the Noe Valley Voice, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, California, 94114.



Photo by Roger Burd

Get caught up in the games and neighborhood spirit at this year's Noe Valley Picnic Sunday, Sept. 30, at the upper level of Douglass Playground (27th and Douglass Streets). Friends of Noe Valley, sponsors of the event, invite you and your kids (no dogs, please) to take part in the ever-popular sack races, balloon-popping contest, volleyball and frisbee competition. A challenge has been issued to a Glen Park softball team, so call Diane and Doug Hall (648-8882) to get lined up for the Noe Valley crew — and don't forget to bring your mitt. Candidates for City offices will be there as well as strolling musicians. You should bring your own food, but drinks and goodies will be available for a donation. Hours for the picnic are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## ONGOING EVENTS

At the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., 282-2317:

- Young People's Singing Experience, for boys and girls, 8 to 11. Saturdays, starting Sept. 15. 10 a.m.
- Soup Lunch Bunch for all ages, Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m.
- Wholesale Mini-Market for people over 55 years, Wednesdays, 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- Group Meditation, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:30 p.m.
- Prayer/Meditation Healing gathering, Wednesdays, 7:15 p.m.
- Sunday Worship/Celebrations, 10 a.m.
- Seminar/open discussion, "The Sermon on the Mount in Contrast," Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Donation.

At the Cooperative Community Center, New College of California, 777 Valencia St., 552-5445:

- Every Friday night, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., drop-in personal problem-solving groups, followed at 8:30 p.m. by planned and informal social activities.

Aug. 23 - "Bite of the Rose," by the Blake Street Hawkeyes. Eureka Theatre, 16th and Market. Thurs. - Sun., 8 p.m. \$4 Thurs. and Sun., \$5 Fri. and Sat. 863-7133.

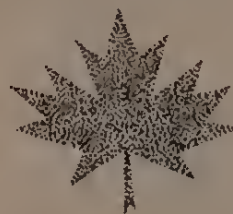
Aug. 24 - "Moon Opera," directed by Julie Hebert. Eureka Theatre, Sept. 8 16th and Market. Fri. and Sat., midnight. \$3. 863-7133.

Aug. 25 - Shaw's "Arms and the Man," directed by Michelle Truffaut. Sept. 30 S. F. Repertory Co., 4147 - 19th St. Thurs. - Sun., 8 p.m. \$4 Thurs., Sun. \$5 Fri., Sat.

Sept. 1 - "Squash," presented by the S. F. Mime Troupe at various 30 local parks. 2 p.m. performances Sat. and Sun. Call 285-1717 for information.

Sept. 14 - "Peter Pan: A New Wave Fairytale," an experimental Oct. 7 musical comedy written and performed by Les Nickettes. Studio Eremos, 401 Alabama St. (at 17th). Fri. - Sun., 8 p.m. \$3.50. Call 621-0448 or 282-3208 for information.

Sept. 22 - Autumn Exhibit of Noe Valley Visual Artists. Noe Valley Oct. 21 Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., sponsored by the Noe Valley Arts Forum. Mon. - Fri., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Opening reception Sept. 22, 6 to 9 p.m.



### Geometry Lesson

the perfect line forgets  
eats itself into a circle  
recedes into the distance  
a dot  
a point in time  
marks my memory.  
  
years pass . . .  
infinite succession of dots  
my voice dies  
on the wind  
of its beginning  
i hold my breath  
entranced  
the dots become  
a snow fence for black birds

J. Giovanna Falk

### Meditations on Innocence

after a dozen cups of coffee at andy's donut shop,  
utter clarity.

the enormous annihilations

the atomic revision of genes & dreams

a gladiator doggerel

'htt htt htt htt'

captures

the gutblood

&

the sky tumbles down

in a precision like

arithmetic

MK

